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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EASTERN HOSTS 30TH ANNUAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University will host its 30th Annual Jazz Festival on Saturday, February 25.

The Festival is open to high schools and junior high schools in Illinois and offers both competitive and non-competitive participation.

Eastern Director of Jazz Studies, Allan L. Horney, said the festival has the distinction of being the oldest High School Jazz Festival in the State.

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30TH ANNUAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Horney said the festival is not only competitive, but is also a great opportunity for students to hear other groups, learn from experienced clinicians and have judges critique their work.

Performing as guest artist will be the International bassist and jazz educator Rufus Reid. Reid currently heads the jazz program at William Patterson College in New Jersey. He will play Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Concert-Dvorak Hall. Reid will perform with both a small group and the big band.

The public is invited and members of participating bands can attend for a special rate of \$1.00 per student and \$3.00 per adult.

On Saturday the jazz bands will be performing from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Concert Hall and in Eastern's Student Union Ballroom. The Improvisation Clinic will begin at noon, followed by a concert at 1:00 p.m. by the Eastern Jazz Ensemble, with guest artist Reid. Band performances will continue from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., while the individual instrument clinics will begin at 3:00 p.m. Eastern's jazz groups will perform at 4:00 p.m. with the awards ceremony following at approximately 4:30.

In addition to the usual trophies and outstanding performer certificates, there will also be jazz camp scholarships awarded to outstanding players.

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Note to editors - A list of participating schools is attached.